(DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to the functioning of Bihar State Financial Corporation (BSFC) and Bihar Industrial Credit & Investment Corporation Ltd. (BICICO). Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that it provides refinance assistance to BSFC and BICICO in respect of their loans. The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) also provides refinance assistance under its refinance scheme to these Corporations. However, the financial health of BSFC and BICICO is declining in the past few years due to which overdues from them are mounting. Considering the problems faced by the Corporations, IDBI has appointed *M/s. A. F. Fergusson & Company*, to conduct an indepth study of the affairs of the Corporations and suggest an action plan for their revamping.

Racket in Industrial Oil Imports

1889. SHRI BRAHMADEO ANAND PASWAN:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH:
SHRI SOM PAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the customs official in Bombay and Kandla have recently uncovered an industrial oil import racket involving 30 crore rupees;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the names of the parties involved in the racket;

(d) what action has been taken against them; and

(e) what measures are proposed to be taken to see that such incidents do not recur in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Use of Government Vehicles for Private Purposes

1899. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the officers of the rank of Joint Secretaries and above have been permitted to use the Government vehicles for non-duty/private purposes, by paying a monthly charge of Rs. 75 for Joint Secretaries and Rs. 100 for Secretaries;

(b) whether officers of the rank of Secretaries have been permitted to use Government vehicles for non-duty/private purposes for a distance upto 500 kms every month at a payment of Rs. 300 (for vehicles upto 16 HP) and Rs. 450 (for vehicles above 16 HP);

(c) whether it is a fact that the charges mentioned in (a) and (b) above do not conform with the schedule of tariff mentioned in Rule 21 of Staff Car Rules i.e. Rs. 2.30 per km (for vehicles upto 18 HP);

(d) if so, whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to withdraw such subsidy in line with their present policy; and

(e) if the answer to part (d) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) No, Sir. Officers of the rank of Joint Secretary and above have not been permitted to use the Government vehicles for on-duty/private purposes, by paying a monthly charge of Rs. 75 for Joint Secretaries and Rs. 100 for Secretaries. However, the Government has allowed the use of staff car for journeys between residence and office and vice-versa, which are treated as duty journeys, for officers of the rank of Joint Secretary and Additional Secretary/ Secretary on payment of Rs. 75 per month and Rs. 100 per month respectively.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) The above facilities have been allowed, on payment basis, on functional and security considerations. There is no proposal at present to withdraw the same.